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Posted on 14 July 2019 By Ngaio Marsh

^Free E-pub ? The Nursing Home Murder ? PDF eBook or Kindle ePUB free

This is the third novel featuring Roderick Alleyn and was first published in 1935 Home Secretary, Sir Derek O Callaghan is very involved in introducing a Bill to deal with anarchists and has received several threats to his life During the beginning of this novel, we are aware that Sir Derek has been having serious abdominal pains and has ignored suggestions he seek medical help until after the Bill has been successful Sir Derek s wife, the icy cool Cicely, does not press him to accept help, but his rather naive and enthusiastic sister, Ruth, constantly tries to press miracle cures upon him To add to Sir Derek s problems, a casual affair he recently, has been taken very seriously by the young woman, now a nurse, who has taken to sending him impassioned, and threatening, letters Complicating matters still is the fact that his friend, and doctor, Sir John Phillips, is in love with her. When Sir Derek collapses in the House of Commons, he is taken off to the nursing home to have an emergency operation In the operating theatre is, of course, Sir John Phillips, the young nurse he had an affair with and at least one person with communist leanings When Sir Derek dies, Lady Cicely demands that his death is not natural, but murder Alleyn investigates and this involves his old friend, Nigel Bathgate, who we met in the first Detective Chief Inspector Alleyn mystery, as well as Nigel s fianc e Angela We are taken from the operating theatre to communist meetings, in a wonderfully evocative Golden Age mystery This is a delightful mystery and will appeal to anyone who enjoys 1930 s mysteries, with a good setting and an interesting cast of suspects. This is my third Ngaio Marsh novel and I still have somewhat mixed feelings I m not into her detective character at all there s been too little personality and depth, just a lot of surface shine and the structure is now formulaic Set up for a murder with many potential motives murder which is very awkward for lots of people Alleyn investigates without explaining much to anyone Alleyn has a reconstruction done this flushes out the murderer, who incriminates himself without need for a trial, and who is the least suspected person an epilogue in which Alleyn explains everything. I have got the next three books now, though There s something relaxing and easy about these, even a little compulsive, perhaps because I don t care much for the characters and so for me, there are no high stakes Generally the plots are full of coincidence, misdirection, and meta nods at the genre if this were a murder story, you would suspect the least obvious one, of course. I think you could pretty much class these as cozy mysteries. Hmm, now I ve given this book 3 stars, is it 20% less good than the first 2 books, well no, but it is not a 4 star book in my opinion I mean, I still enjoyed it, and I m liking Alleyn and Fox, but felt this novel was a little weaker than the first two I said I wasn t

going to read number 3 straight away as I didn't want to overdose on Alleyn just to play catch up, but I was enjoying these so much I went ahead. So is my 3 stars a result of this overdose or not I shall seriously take a break this time before number 4 and we shall see.

This is the third novel featuring Roderick Alleyn and was first published in 1935. Home Secretary, Sir Derek O'Callaghan is very involved in introducing a Bill to deal with anarchists and has received several threats to his life. During the beginning of this novel, we are aware that Sir Derek has been having serious abdominal pains and has ignored suggestions he seek medical help until after the Bill has been successful. Sir Derek's wife, the icy cool Cicely, does not press him to accept help, but his rather naive and enthusiastic sister, Ruth, constantly tries to press miracle cures upon him. To add to Sir Derek's problems, a casual affair he recently has been taken very seriously by the young woman, now a nurse, who has taken to sending him impassioned, and threatening, letters. Complicating matters still is the fact that his friend, and doctor, Sir John Phillips, is in love with her. When Sir Derek collapses in the House of Commons, he is taken off to the nursing home to have an emergency operation. In the operating theatre is, of course, Sir John Phillips, the young nurse he had an affair with and at least one person with communist leanings. When Sir Derek dies, Lady Cicely demands that his death is not natural, but murder. Alleyn investigates and this involves his old friend, Nigel Bathgate, who we met in the first Detective Chief Inspector Alleyn mystery, as well as Nigel's fiancée Angela. We are taken from the operating theatre to communist meetings, in a wonderfully evocative Golden Age mystery. This is a delightful mystery and will appeal to anyone who enjoys 1930s mysteries, with a good setting and an interesting cast of suspects. A singularly cold and dull mystery finished off with a ridiculous solution.

I've read nearly two dozen of Ngaio Marsh's wonderful novels featuring Roderick Alleyn, a detective inspector and the younger son of a baronet, but somehow I managed to skip *The Nursing Home Murder*, the third novel in the series. Thanks to Uncle Silas for pointing that out, and I've now remedied the situation. In this novel, first released in 1935, Sir Derek O'Callaghan, the English Home Secretary, is rushed to the hospital for unbearable abominable pains only to die soon after his operation. Soon enough, it emerges that Sir Derek's death was murder, not a medical malady. Intrepid journalist Nigel Bathgate, who was featured in Marsh's first two novels *A Man Lay Dead* and *Enter a Murderer* returns to great effect in this one to serve as Alleyn's informal assistant and publicist. Still, *The Nursing Home Murder*, which takes place in a private hospital rather than what today we'd term a nursing home, isn't up to Marsh's usual high standard. The turgid plot until Detective Inspector Alleyn shows up, Marsh's confusing anarchists and communists, the cardboard secondary characters in particular, O'Callaghan's crackpot sister, Harold Sage the jumped-up chemist, and the fanatical communist Nurse Banks, and the murderer's completely implausible motivation. *view spoiler* The whole notion of eugenics as horrible as it was was to keep the feeble-minded and depraved from breeding. *So why kill the childless Sir Derek O'Callaghan* *hide spoiler* I'm reading through

the Inspector Alleyn mysteries in order with the Reading the Detectives group at Goodreads

This third mystery is the best yet, with Alleyn really starting to come into his own as a character. He is still witty and sometimes silly, but there are a few hints of hidden depths. The title could be a bit misleading to contemporary readers, suggesting the book is set in a care home. In fact, though, the setting is a private hospital, well before the arrival of the NHS. A top politician, the home secretary, is rushed in for surgery after collapsing in the Commons. But by this point readers have already met a long list of people with reason to want him dead, so his prospects of recovery don't look too good. The hospital atmosphere is well done, and there is a good selection of suspects and motives, though perhaps Marsh could have featured the victim's political rivals than she does. I realised that I must have read this one many years ago and remembered whodunit, but if I hadn't previously read it, I am not sure if I would have guessed right. As well as Alleyn starting to mature in this book, Sgt Fox is also starting to emerge as a worthy partner, with some enjoyable dialogue between the pair. Posh journalist Nigel Bathgate, Alleyn's Boswell in the first two books, does appear again, together with his girlfriend Angela, but I get the feeling they are starting to be edged out. Just the third in the Roderick Alleyn series, this book supplies us with a very interesting set of circumstances and characters featuring the Home Secretary, Prime Minister, Bolsheviks, and some helpful friends of Alleyn's in his rather complete way of investigating anyone and everyone before reaching his conclusion of who killed the Home Secretary. His co-worker Fox plays a small role in this case. In a nutshell, the Home Secretary has been suffering stomach pain he tries to ignore but then requires emergency appendectomy. He does not survive. His wife calls Scotland Yard. There are many people with motives to kill and a great deal of medical minutiae to examine. After careful planning, Alleyn holds a re-enactment of the crime to catch the killer. It is a very well plotted and written book. 224 pages Good Felony Mayhem Press GoodLibrary Loan Good

NGAIO MARSH



THE NURSING HOME MURDER

'She is astoundingly good.'
DAILY EXPRESS

3.5 I m starting to see a pattern I prefer Marsh s crime novels when they have a theatrical

setting. But this title has a very authentic feel. It was co-written with Marsh's gynaecologist, Henry Jellet; he gets an author credit on my edition. You can almost smell the antiseptic. So the hospital setting felt fine. Even the political world felt real. It is when Marsh strays into the world of Bolshies with the quite annoyingly perky Nigel Angela that things come a little unstuck, with cardboard characters and a feeling that Marsh just isn't comfortable here. Fox, as always, is a dignified delight. And I didn't guess the culprit. For me, that is always a plus. My edition old enough to feature one mildly racist comment. Edit: Just in case some overly zealous librarian removes Jellet's name from the book on my 1970 Fontana, he is credited as co-author of the book. ^Free E-pub ?

The Nursing Home Murder ? When Britain's Home Secretary Complained Of Abdominal Pains, It Seemed Like A Simple Case Of Appendicitis But Minutes After His Operation, The Ill Fated Politician Lay Dead On The Table. When Chief Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn Arrives To Dissect The Situation, He Finds Many A Likely Suspect, Including A Vengeful Surgeon, A Lovelorn Nurse, An Unhappy Wife, And A Cabinet Full Of Political Foes

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